



**St. Rocco  
School**

*Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ!*

# THURSDAY PACKET

Weekly Parent Newsletter



## MISSION STATEMENT

*Sharing the Love of the Heart of Christ is the foundation of the St. Rocco School community.*

*We are dedicated to creating a safe environment that instills*

*Catholic values and nourishes the development and growth of the whole person.*

*We are committed to excellence in academic standards*

*that prepare students to reach their full potential and meet the global challenges of the world.*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As I begin my second year as principal of St. Rocco School, I am filled with gratitude and excitement for the wonderful growth happening in our school community. This year, we are blessed to open a brand-new Pre-K3 classroom, welcoming many new families who have joined us from Pre-K through Grade 8.

Along with our growing student body, we have also welcomed several new staff members, including three new teachers, who bring with them great talent and dedication. Each of them shares our commitment to living out the mission of St. Rocco School—a mission rooted in faith, academic excellence, and the nurturing of each child's God-given potential.

I am very proud to have these educators join our team, and I know they will be an incredible blessing to our students and families. Together, with your support and partnership, we will continue to provide a faith-filled and rigorous education for all of our children.

Thank you for entrusting your children to us. I look forward to another year of growth, learning, and faith at St. Rocco School.

With gratitude and blessings,  
Mrs. D'Amico  
Principal

## Beginning of Year Reminders

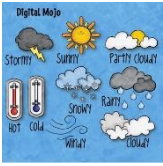


**\*\*IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT FEELING WELL**, please keep them home and call or email the **SCHOOL OFFICE FIRST** to report them absent. You may send an email to your child's teacher and to the nurse, but initially, **the phone call/email must be to the School Office first**. If you are unsure if you should send your child to school, call the office to speak to the nurse. Please contact the Nurse with any questions.

**Communication** - Once again this year, St. Rocco School is using e-mail, texting and/or parent portal for much of their communication. You will receive an email with the Thursday Packet along with any pertinent attachments. Please familiarize yourself with the School Website ([www.stroccoschool.org](http://www.stroccoschool.org)).

- **E-Mail Addresses / Text Notifications** ~ If you are **NOT** presently receiving these notifications, please inform the School Office of your address.

- **Thursday Packets** – As stated above, the “Thursday Packet Parent Note”, Monthly Calendar and Lunch Menu will be sent via email and posted on our website.
- **Photo Consent Forms** ~ This form is required annually for All Students. Please sign and return to



school on Tuesday. (Per the Diocese of Providence)

**Text Weather/School Closing Alert** ~ You may go to: Turnto10.com and register your phone under the weather tab.

**Student Data/Custody Concerns** – Please notify the School Office if any information regarding your child has changed since the submission of your child’s application for enrollment. Any custody concerns require immediate notification to the School Office.

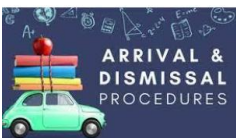
**DRESS CODE:** – We take pride in the appearance of our students. The way a student dresses and appears often has an effect on behavior and learning. Uniforms must be worn at all times unless it is a casual “Dress Down Day”. Please refer to the School Handbook available on the School Website.



**DRESS DOWN DAY POLICY/MONTHLY PASSES** ~ Each month throughout the school year, beginning in October, St. Rocco School will be offering special dress down passes for the month. You may purchase the monthly passes for OCTOBER for the cost of \$5.00. The “Dress Down Day” passes are for **Tuesdays only**. Please place the money in a clearly labeled envelope with the required form your child’s name, grade, along with your payment. (**Checks ONLY**) Passes will be sent home in the Thursday Packet. There will

also be days designated as a *Dress Down Day* for charities, celebrations, recognitions, etc. Please check the monthly calendars as these days will be noted.

**BCI / Safe Environment Reminder** – All parents, volunteers and coaches interested in both onsite and offsite, volunteer opportunities must have completed a BCI & Safe Environment check. **There will be opportunities to complete your BCI training and paperwork. They are: September 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at Back to School Night.** Potential first-time volunteers need to watch the Safe Environment Powerpoint presentation at school; renewal of the Safe Environment can be viewed on the School Website at home. After you have viewed the presentation, you will sign a form in the School Office. A copy of your license and a payment of \$5.00 is needed for the BCI. The school is informed when this process is successfully completed, and the individual is cleared for volunteering. If you wish to participate or volunteer during the school year at events or activities, please complete the training and submit all necessary paperwork early to ensure clearance in time. If you are not sure of your status, you may contact the School Office or Mrs. Okolowicz.



### **Arrival & Dismissal Procedures** –

Remember that at all times we have the safety of our students in mind, and we rely on our parents’ help in this area. Arrival ~ Doors open at 8:00am. All students are to enter the building each day using the assigned entrances listed below. Dismissal is at 2:35pm. At dismissal, children must exit the building using the designated exit doors assigned to their class:

Pre-Kindergarten 4A & B ~ Side Entrance Lower-Level Faculty Parking Lot in the “**Red Zone Area**”

Pre-Kindergarten 3A ~ Side Entrance Left of School

Pre-Kindergarten 3B – Side Entrance Right of School (Church Side)

Grades K-2 ~ Lower level at the bottom of the Ramp (Church Side)

Grades 3-8 ~ Front Entrance of School

Please remember: all students are dismissed to an authorized adult and are not allowed to be “waved” across the avenue, nor is a student allowed to walk home.



Please see the attached 2 Memos regarding **Emergency Procedures** at St. Rocco School and **Parking/Crosswalk Safety Flyer & Classroom Entrances**. We have also sent home hard copies of these memos in the Thursday Packet Envelope.

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\* Any payment sent in for your child MUST BE IN AN ENVELOPE, CLEARLY LABELED WITH:**

- Student's Name
- Student's Homeroom
- Indicate what payment is for
- Lunch Choices if applicable

**Absence/Tardy** – It is the responsibility of parents to see that our students attend school daily and are on time. Students must be in their classroom by 8:10am and are considered late if they enter the building after 8:14. If



a student is not in school by 11:25am, he/she will be marked as a half day absence.

The only valid reasons for absence are illness of the student, a death in the family, or permission from the Office. Students are responsible for assignments and tests given during their absence.

Your child must have a written note explaining why he/she was absent and bring it with them to school upon returning. Students who are absent 3 or more consecutive days due to illness must have a doctor's note before returning to school.

Please call to notify the School Office by 8:30AM if your child will be absent. If your child is going to be late and will be ordering school lunch, please call the School Office no later than 8:30AM so we may plan accordingly.



**DAY CARE NEWS** ~ Just a reminder, any student attending the Extended Care Program must have all necessary paperwork on file. **A NEW, UPDATED FORM IS REQUIRED AT THE START OF EVERY SCHOOL YEAR.** Forms are available through the School Office and/or on-line.

The extension for daycare is #114. The policy regarding the receipt of payment: Please place your payment (CHECK ONLY) in a clearly labeled envelope with your child's name on front c/o Extended Care and return to the school office. Extended Care begins at **7:15am** and ends at **5:00pm**. Please be prompt when picking up! \*Extra charge if late! Also, when dropping off and picking up from our Extended Care Program, you must park in the rear lot and use the side door designated for Extended Care drop-off/pickup (located at the top of the ramp with awning). There is a doorbell located to the right of the door. Your child's and your safety is our top priority. As always, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



**Breakfast** – Breakfast is available each morning starting at 7:45 and ending at 8:00am. Students may go directly to Cafe Rocco where they will select their breakfast choices. A Chartwell employee will be there to assist them. Please plan accordingly, so that your child will be finished with breakfast on time and they will not be late for homeroom. The cost for breakfast is \$2.00.

**Morning Snacks** ~ Students must bring snacks from home. Snacks are not available to purchase at that time.



**Lunch Program:** St. Rocco School partakes in the Federal Lunch Program. The menu is posted on our School Website. Your child may select the hot or cold meal choice. In doing so, your child will receive the required food items of the entree along with additional options of fruit and vegetables that they must choose to complete their meal. Your help in explaining this process to your child, required by the Federal Government, would be greatly appreciated.

**Ordering Lunch** ~ **Lunch is \$3.00.** Please place the payment in an envelope clearly labeled: LUNCH MONEY, your child's name/HR and lunch choice. It would greatly help if you enclose the **exact amount of cash or a check.** **You may also choose to prepay for the week only.** We **cannot** guarantee their lunch choice after 8:45AM. If your child will be late, please call the office to let us know if he/she is purchasing lunch. Thank you!

***An application for Free and Reduced Lunch is attached. It is also available online on the School Website. If applying, please make sure the application is filled out completely with all the required information and signed.***

**Please Note: We are a PEANUT, TREE NUT, SODA, SMOKE and GUM FREE ENVIRONMENT. Also, NO GLASS CONTAINERS are to be used for a student's lunch or beverage.**

**Lunch/Snack Shop Volunteers** – We will be looking for “Snack Shop” volunteers for Monday – Friday in the coming weeks. You must have completed or complete the BCI/Safe Environment check. This is a great way to see your kids interact with their friends at lunch and meet other parents in our school!



**Lifetouch Picture Day** – Lifetouch will be here on Thursday, October 16th, to photograph all faculty, staff and students. **All students must wear their school dress uniform (including a sweater/vest), as these are the yearbook pictures.**



**Student Busing/Parking**

Johnston Residents: please be sure you have submitted the required form to the School Office.

**Johnston residents** only use Durham. Any questions please call – 401-944-5880.

**Statewide Busing:** for students who reside in region 3 – the towns are listed below as well as on the website for your convenience.

Barrington	Lincoln	Bristol	North Providence	Smithfield	
Central Falls	Pawtucket	Cranston	Providence	East Providence	Warren

<http://www.ride.ri.gov/StudentsFamilies/AdditionalResources/StudentTransportation.aspx>



**Save the Date:**

Monday, September 1<sup>st</sup>

Labor Day – **NO SCHOOL**

Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>

First Friday Mass – 8:45 am

Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>

**Back to School Night 6:00pm Gr. 1-4 Café Rocco**

Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>

**Back to School Night 6:00 pm Gr 5-8 Café Rocco**

Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup>

**Independent Learning/Professional Day – NO In-School Learning**

**The Kindness Wave™**



Start a ripple... Create a wave.  
**It begins with YOU!**

**Kindness** ~ Be kind be kind to one another, compassionate,  
forgiving one another  
as God has forgiven you in Christ. *Ephesians 4:32*

**CHRIST** is the reason for this school.  
*~in our minds, on our lips, and always in our hearts~*